



ROBINSON MCFADDEN
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

ROBINSON, MCFADDEN & MOORE, P.C.
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

June 14, 2013

Frank R. Ellerbe, III
1901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1200
POST OFFICE BOX 944
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

PH
(803) 779-8900 | (803) 227-1112 *direct*

FAX
(803) 744-1556

fellerbe@robinsonlaw.com

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk of the Commission
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Post Office Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

**Re: SCTC Petition to Modify Alternative Regulation Plans filed pursuant to S.C.
Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) to take into Account Recent Action by the FCC
Docket No. 2013-55-C**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Enclosed for filing is the Motion of South Carolina Cable Television Association to Require Reductions in Amounts Drawn from the USF. By copy of this letter we are serving the same on the parties of record. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Yours truly,

ROBINSON, MCFADDEN & MOORE, P.C.

Frank R. Ellerbe, III

FRE/tch

Enclosure

cc/enc: M. John Bowen, Jr., Esquire (via email and US Mail)
Margaret M. Fox, Esquire (via email and US Mail)
Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire (via email and US Mail)
Scott Elliott, Esquire (via email and US Mail)
Jeanne W. Stockman, Esquire (via email and US Mail)
Steven W. Hamm, Esquire (via email and US Mail)
C. Jo Anne Wessigner Hill, Esquire (via email and US Mail)

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2013-55-C

In Re:)	
)	
South Carolina Telephone Coalition Petition)	
to Modify Alternative Regulation Plans Filed	)	Motion of South Carolina Cable
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) to	)	Television Association To Require
Take Into Account Recent Action by the	)	Reductions in Amounts Drawn from
Federal Communications Commission	)	the USF
)	
)	

Pursuant to R. 103-829 of this Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, intervenor South Carolina Cable Television Association (“SCCTA”) moves for an order requiring reductions in the amount of funding being drawn from the Universal Service Fund by those members of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition (“SCTC”) that have raised their rates for basic local residential service. In support of its motion the SCCTA would show the following:

1. In this docket the SCTC sought an order from this Commission allowing its members to raise their rates for basic local residential service to \$15.62 per month. In its petition to intervene in this proceeding the SCCTA supported the request of the SCTC regarding the increase but asserted that the proposed increases would require adjustments to the Universal Service Fund. The SCTC request for an increase was granted by the Commission in Order No. 2013-201.

2. On May 6, 2013 six members of the SCTC – Chester Telephone Company, Home Telephone Company, Lockhart Telephone Company, PBT Telecom,

Ridgeway Telephone Company and West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative – filed tariff revisions implementing, as of June 1, 2013, increases in basic local residential rates. See Exhibit A. The rate revisions filed by the companies were in differing amounts but all are increases and all will produce additional revenues to the companies as their customers pay the higher rates.

3. All six of the companies that have filed rate increases are Carriers of Last Resort (“COLRs”) and receive subsidy funding from the South Carolina Universal Service Fund. Pursuant to the provisions of this Commission’s USF plan, in order for the COLRs’ USF withdrawals to be “revenue neutral” those withdrawals must be reduced to offset the additional revenue generated by the rate increases. See Docket 97-239-C, Order No. 97-753, p.8, and Order No. 2001-996, (adopting Guidelines for South Carolina Universal Service Fund).¹

4. The reduction in USF withdrawals sought by the SCCTA is also required by the provisions of S.C. Code Section 58-9-280(E) which provides that the USF shall be the difference between the cost of providing basic local service and the maximum amount that a COLR can charge for basic local exchange service. Since the six companies filing the tariff revisions have increased their rates for basic local exchange service the USF subsidies to those companies must be reduced.

WHEREFORE, the SCCTA requests an order from the Commission reducing the amount of USF subsidies received by the six companies that filed increases in their rates for basic local residential services.

¹ The requirement that rate changes be revenue neutral was recognized in a recent filing by the SCTC companies. On May 31, 2013 they filed confidential data to support their contention that certain revisions to access charges were revenue neutral. See Exhibit B.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2013.

ROBINSON, MCFADDEN & MOORE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank R. Ellerbe, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Frank R. Ellerbe, III
Bonnie D. Shealy
Post Office Box 944
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 779-8900
FEllerbe@Robinsonlaw.com
BShealy@Robinsonlaw.com

Attorneys for South Carolina
Cable Television Association

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2013-55-C

In Re:)	
)	
South Carolina Telephone Coalition Petition)	
to Modify Alternative Regulation Plans Filed	)	Motion of South Carolina Cable
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) to	)	Television Association to Require
Take Into Account Recent Action by the	)	Reductions in Amounts Drawn from
Federal Communications Commission	)	the USF
)	
_____)	

EXHIBIT A

MCNAIR
ATTORNEYS

May 6, 2013

Margaret M. Fox

pfox@mcnair.net
T (803) 799-9800
F (803) 753-3278

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd
Chief Clerk and Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Revised Tariff Pages

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Enclosed for filing please find revised tariff pages for the following companies:

Chester Telephone Company	PBT Telecom d/b/a Comporium
Home Telephone Company	Ridgeway Telephone Company
Lockhart Telephone Company	West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

These tariff revisions reflect an increase in basic local residential rates under the respective companies alternative regulation plans, not to exceed the national average rate of \$15.62, pursuant to Commission Order No. 2013-201 in Docket No. 2013-55-C.

Pursuant to S. C. Code Ann. §§ 58-9-576(B)(6), the enclosed tariffs are presumed valid and may become effective fourteen days after filing. The enclosed tariffs have an effective date of June 1, 2013.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the enclosed tariffs.

Very truly yours,

McNAIR LAW FIRM, P. A.,


Margaret M. Fox

MMF:rwm
Enclosures

cc: Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire, ORS
James M. McDaniel, ORS

McNair Law Firm, P. A.
1221 Main Street
Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201

Mailing Address
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, SC 29211

mcnair.net

COLUMBIA 1113956v1

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

CHESTER TELEPHONE COMPANY
CHESTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

ELEVENTH REVISED PAGE 2
REPLACES TENTH REVISED PAGE 2

ISSUED: MAY 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 1, 2013

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.3 MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES

- a. Monthly exchange rates, as authorized by the Public Service Commission, are shown below.
- b. The rates specified herein, entitle subscribers to an unlimited number of messages to all stations bearing the designation of central offices within the serving exchange and additional exchanges as shown in Section A3.4 Local Calling Areas of this tariff.

EXCHANGE	RESIDENCE 1 PARTY	BUSINESS 1 PARTY	PBX TRUNK
CHESTER	\$ 15.50 (I)	\$ 27.90	\$ 27.90
GREAT FALLS	\$ 15.50 (I)	\$ 27.90	\$ 27.90
LEWISVILLE	\$ 15.50 (I)	\$ 27.90	\$ 27.90

A3.3.1 Public Telephone Access Service For Customer Provided Equipment (CPE)

3.3.1.1 Rates and Charges

- A. Public Telephone Access Service for CPE is provided on a Flat Rate basis where facilities permit.

1. Flat Rate \$27.90 per line

- a. The above monthly rate is applicable to Public Telephone Access Service for CPE.

A3.4 LOCAL CALLING AREAS

The rates specified in Section A3.3 entitle subscribers to access all stations bearing the central office designations of additional exchanges as shown below. The local calling area of the exchange in the left hand column also includes the exchanges listed in the right hand column.

EXCHANGE	ADDITIONAL EXCHANGES
Chester	Great Falls - Lewisville
Great Falls	Chester - Lewisville
Lewisville	Chester - Great Falls

RATES AND CHARGES

18.2 SERVICE CHARGES (Cont'd)

18.2.7 Returned Check Charge

Per Occasion

The returned check charge will be equal to, or less than, the rate allowed by S.C. Code Ann. § 34-11-70 (Supp. 1998).

18.2.8 Late Payment Charge

The Company may establish a Late Payment Charge as it deems appropriate subject to the maximum amounts and the exceptions contained in South Carolina Public Service Commission Reg. 103-622.2.

18.3 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE CHARGES

The following charges are assessed for the services listed in Section 6 of this tariff.

18.3.1 Flat Rate Service

A. Moncks Corner Exchange

	Monthly Rate	
	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Business</u>
Individual Line, Per Line	\$15.62 (I)	\$28.70
PBX Trunk, Per Trunk		\$42.50
Key System, Per Line		\$28.70
Public Telephone Access Service		\$28.70

B. Harleyville Exchange

Individual Line, Per Line	\$15.62 (I)	\$28.70
PBX Trunk, Per Trunk		\$33.75
Key System, Per Line		\$28.70
Public Telephone Access Service		\$28.70

Issued: May 6, 2013

Effective: June 1, 2013

HOME TELEPHONE ILEC, LLC D/B/A HOME TELECOM
William S. Helmly, President
579 Stoney Landing Road, Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29401
Email: Will.Helmly@Hometelco.com Phone No.: (843) 761-9101

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCKHART TELEPHONE COMPANY
LOCKHART, SOUTH CAROLINA

ELEVENTH REVISED PAGE 1
REPLACES TENTH REVISED PAGE 1

ISSUED: MAY 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 1, 2013

3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.1 GENERAL

- a. Local exchange service rates in this tariff are identified with the Lockhart Telephone Company
- b. The Base Rate Area is identified on a map filed in this tariff section.
- c. The rates for services not specifically shown in this section are presented in other sections of this tariff.

3.2 RATES

System Access Charges

Residential Access	1 - Party	\$14.25	Per line per month
Business Access	1 - Party	\$23.80	Per line per month
PBX Access		\$23.80	Per line per month
PTAS Access	1 - Party	\$23.80	Per line per month

(I)

GENERAL CUSTOMER SERVICES TARIFF

PBT TELECOM, INC.

SIXTH REVISED PAGE 1.0.1

ISSUED MAY 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 1, 2013

S3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S3.1.2 Residential Rate Base Service

S3.1.2(a) All Exchanges

Class and Grade of Service

Rate

Access Line (One-party)

\$15.62(I)

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

RIDGEWAY TELEPHONE COMPANY
RIDGEWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA

ELEVNTH REVISED PAGE 1
REPLACES TENTH REVISED PAGE 1

ISSUED: MAY 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 1, 2013

A3.1 General

The Local Exchange Service Area is identified by a map filed as a supplement to this tariff.

A3.2 Rate Schedules

A.3.2.1 Rate Schedule

- a. The Following Schedule of rates is applicable
- b. Rates specified herein entitle the subscriber to a touch tone line with an unlimited number of messages to all stations bearing the designation of the central offices within the local exchange company area.

<u>Residence</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>PBX Trunk</u>
1-Pty \$15.50 (I)	1-Pty \$27.50	\$27.50

A3.3.1 Public Telephone Access Service For Customer Provided Equipment (CPE)

3.3.1.1 Rates and Charges

- A. Public Telephone Access Service for CPE is provided on a Flat Rate basis where facilities permit.

1. Flat Rate \$27.50 per line

- a. The above monthly rate is applicable to Public Telephone Access Service for CPE.

A3.2.2 Authorization

- a. Local exchange rates are authorized individually by the South Carolina Public Service Commission.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER TARIFF

WEST CAROLINA RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

ISSUED: May 6, 2013

EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2013

3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES

3.2 Monthly Exchange Rates

Monthly exchange rates are authorized by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and are shown below:

3.2.1 Flat Rate Access Service

	Monthly Rate	
A. <u>Business</u>		
One Party Access Line.....	\$28.70	
B. <u>Residence</u>		
One Party Access Line.....	\$15.62	(I)
C. <u>Pay Station</u>		
Public Telephone Access Service (PTAS).....	\$28.70	
D. <u>PABX and PBX</u>		
Trunk Lines.....	\$28.70	
E. <u>Churches</u>		
One Party Access Line.....	\$15.62	(I)

3.2.2 Message Rate Service

The rates specified above in 3.2.1 entitle customers to an unlimited number of messages to all stations bearing the designations of central offices within the service exchange and additional exchanges which have extended area service with the serving exchange.

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2013-55-C

In Re:)	
)	
South Carolina Telephone Coalition Petition)	
to Modify Alternative Regulation Plans Filed	)	Motion of South Carolina Cable
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) to	)	Television Association to Require
Take Into Account Recent Action by the	)	Reductions in Amounts Drawn from
Federal Communications Commission	)	the USF
)	
<hr/>)	

EXHIBIT B

M C N A I R
ATTORNEYS

Margaret M. Fox

pfox@mcnair.net
T (803) 799-9800
F (803) 753-3278

May 31, 2013

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd
Chief Clerk and Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Motion Requesting Materials Be Treated As Confidential

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On behalf of the telephone companies listed on the enclosed Motion, we are requesting the materials accompanying this Motion filed today be treated as confidential.

A copy of the Motion and the public redacted version of accompanying back up information is attached hereto via electronic filing. We are providing the Motion and confidential copies of the accompanying back up information to the Commission in a sealed envelope marked confidential. We are also providing a copy of the Motion and copies of the confidential back up information to the Office of Regulatory Staff.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this filing.

Very truly yours,

McNAIR LAW FIRM, P. A.,



Margaret M. Fox

MMF:rwm
Enclosures

cc: Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire

McNair Law Firm, P. A.
1221 Main Street
Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201

Mailing Address
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, SC 29211

mcnair.net

COLUMBIA 1116185v1

**BEFORE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF
SOUTH CAROLINA**

Re: Intrastate Access Service Tariff Revisions for
Bluffton Telephone Company, Inc., Chesnee Telephone
Company, Chester Telephone Company d/b/a TruVista,
Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Ft. Mill Telephone
d/b/a Comporium, Hargray Telephone Company, Inc.
Home Telephone Company, Inc., Horry Telephone
Cooperative, Inc., Lancaster Telephone Company d/b/a
Comporium, Lockhart Telephone Company d/b/a TruVista
Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Piedmont
Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., PBT Telecom d/b/a
Comporium, Rock Hill Telephone Company d/b/a
Comporium, Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc., St.
Stephen Telephone Company, West Carolina Rural
Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and Williston Telephone
Company.

MOTION REQUESTING THAT MATERIALS BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL

The companies listed in the caption above (the “Companies”) respectfully request that the South Carolina Public Service Commission (“the Commission”) treat certain materials accompanying this motion as confidential. This motion is made on the following grounds:

1. Each of the Companies has filed under separate cover with the Commission today a revised Intrastate Access Service Tariff. One of the proposed revisions deals with restructuring Originating Intrastate Switched Access Transport service on a revenue-neutral basis. The attached information consists of back-up data for each Company to demonstrate that the proposed revisions are revenue-neutral to the respective Companies.

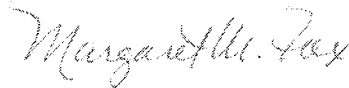
2. The accompanying information contains access revenue and demand data for each of the Companies. The information is commercially-sensitive and proprietary business information that should be exempt from public disclosure. In light of the current telecommunications environment, it is

not appropriate to make detailed information regarding a company's operations publicly available. Access to the information could give actual and potential competitors an unfair competitive advantage. Confidential treatment of this information is consistent with the Commission's prior rulings and prior treatment of similar information. *See, e.g.,* Order No. 96-882 in Docket No. 96-318-C, at p. '9 (directing proprietary treatment of access minutes of use reported to the Commission for purposes of determining contributions to the Interim LEC Fund).

3. In accordance with the Commission's guidelines, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2005-226, "Order Requiring Designation of Confidential Materials," the Companies are submitting a proprietary, un-redacted copy in a sealed envelope with each page marked "Confidential" in red ink. Because the documents are confidential in their entirety, the "public redacted" version consists of a statement to that effect.

WHEREFORE, the Companies respectfully request that the Commission treat the accompanying materials as confidential.

Respectfully submitted,



By: _____
M. John Bowen, Jr.
Margaret M. Fox
McNair Law Firm, P.A.
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
Telephone: (803) 799-9800
Facsimile: (803) 753-3219
Email: jbowen@mcnair.net;
pfox@mcnair.net

Attorneys for the Companies

May 31, 2013
Columbia, South Carolina.

ACCOMPANYING BACK UP INFORMATION – REDACTED IN ITS ENTIRETY

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2013-55-C

In Re:)
)
South Carolina Telephone Coalition Petition)
to Modify Alternative Regulation Plans Filed)
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-576(B) to)
Take Into Account Recent Action by the)
Federal Communications Commission)
_____)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that I, Toni C. Hawkins, a Paralegal with the law firm of Robinson, McFadden & Moore, P.C., have this day caused to be served upon the person(s) named below the **Motion of South Carolina Cable Television Association to Require Reductions in Amounts Drawn from the USF** in the foregoing matter by placing a copy of same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed as follows:

M. John Bowen, Jr., Esquire
Margaret M. Fox, Esquire
McNair Law Firm, P.A.
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire
SC Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201

Scott Elliott, Esquire
Elliott & Elliott, P.A.
1508 Lady Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Jeanne W. Stockman, Esquire
United Telephone Company of the Carolinas, LLC
d/b/a CenturyLink
14111 Capital Boulevard – NCWKFR0313
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Steven W. Hamm, Esquire
C. JoAnne Wessinger Hill, Esquire
Richardson, Plowden and Robinson, PA
Post Office Drawer 7788
Columbia, SC 29202

Dated at Columbia, South Carolina this 14th day of June, 2013.



Toni C. Hawkins